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friends or relatives. He stated these individuals were not specifically mentioned but he got this impression from conversing with subject RAY.

advised subject RAY furnished no information concerning where he was staying in St. Louis and made no mention of associates or relatives with whom he might be stated he did not observe associated or living. RAY in company with any other individual on any of the above-mentioned occasions. He did state that RAY mentioned in the conversation that he "walked out" of the MSP with a group of visitors from the outside. It was understanding that this was in connection with a ball game that had been played at the penitentiary and that the date, approximately, RAY walked away was April 24, 1967. was questioned specifically concerning any information he might have as to the identity of any individual assisting subject RAY in his escape and he stated he could furnish no information whatever in this respect. He further stated he has not seen subject RAY since around May 18, 1967, and is not in possession of any information concerning his possible whereabouts since that time.

advised he recalled subject RAY very well from his association with him at the MSP. He described RAY as a "loner" who participated in gambling in the penitentiary. He stated, however, that RAY spent so much of his time in solitary confinement due to his attempts to escape that he did not have much opportunity to participate in these activities. He advised that he was as close to RAY as anyone in the penitentiary and recalled that RAY took narcotics, and often cell to converse and offer narcotics came to his, With regard to RAY's closest associate at to advised that he was as close to RAY as any MSP, inmate. He went on to state that based on this association and his general knowledge of RAY it was hard for him to imagine RAY being involved in the MARTIN LUTHER KING slaying. In this respect he stated he did not feel RAY would be motivated by animosity toward Dr. KING and was not the type of individual who would be trusted by people wanting to dispose of KING. He knew of no connections that RAY had while in MSP which

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would afford him access to information regarding a planned assassination of Dr. KING. It is population that if RAY made such connections he did so while on the run subsequent to his escape.

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recalled an inmate at MSP known as (first name unknown) COOLEY (phonetic) described as white male, 45 years old at the present time, 6' tall, 150 pounds, slender build, black hair. He stated this individual walked with a noticeable limp, believed to be in his right leg, and that the right leg was curved out noticeably. He advised that COOLEY was an inmate at MSP on two separate occasions. He believes that COOLEY was last released prior to 1960 when subject RAY entered MSP. COOLEY worked in the penitentiary kitchen. He described could relate no specific COOLEY as a "fanatic". circumstances on which he based his opinion that COOLEY was a fanatic, or what COOLEY was fanatical about. merely stated that COOLEY had "way out" ideas, and that he, COOLEY, attempted to appear as an intellectual. He recalled that COOLEY read science and sex books continually. Inasmuch as COOLEY's last release was prior to subject RAY's incarceration at MSP, does not believe there was any association between Subject RAY and this COOLEY. knows of no organization known as COOLEY's organization or any group headed by COOLEY.

During the interview mentioned an individual known to him as JACK (last name unknown) who in May of 1967 was in charge of a rooming house at 1805 South 11th Street. Met this individual while incarcerated in St. Louis subsequent to his arrest on June 1, 1967. It was his recollection that JACK (last name unknown) was arrested on June 2, 1967, suspected of burglary of a tavern located near his residence at 1805 South 11th.

During conversation with JACK (last name unknown), who was described as a white male, age 70, 6' tall, 200 pounds, gray hair, subject RAY was discussed. Although JACK did not specifically say so, got the impression that RAY

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SERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIO FD-102 (Rev. 1-25-60) June 24, 1968 Date 1 was interviewed at the located on the corner of where he spends most of his time. He He has made still resides at arrangements to With reference to subject JAMES EARL RAY, reiterated information previously furnished in this matter. He stated RAY walked away from the Missouri State Penitentiary in the afternoon of April 23, 1967, and he, the state of th to his release he visited briefly with subject RAY on South 11th Street in St. Louis on two different occasions. On the second occasion he had a drink with RAY in a bar, name unrecalled, in the 1800 block of South 11th and he loaned RAY \$10 since he stated he was in need of money. RAY indicated he planned to obtain a gun possibly in East St. Louis, Illinois, and make a "score" in the near future. in his brief visits with RAY got the impression RAY was living with some of his relatives not far from the 1800 block of South 11th, although RAY did not actually make a statement to that effect. stated that subject might have been residing with JACK GAWRON, who resided in that area, but neither RAY nor GAWRON ever made a definite statement indicating that RAY was living with GAWRON. repeated information previously furnished that although he considers himself one of subject RAY's closest friends in the Missouri State Penitentiary, he never heard him make any statements either in the penitentiary or after his escape that would link him in any way with the MARTIN LUTHER KING slaying. He went on to state that he felt certain that if RAY is involved it is through RAY's efforts to obtain money and not through any idealistic feelings or hate feelings that he might harbor. 63 On^{6/21/68} SL: 44-775 St. Louis, Missouri File SA 6/24/68 bySA CBB: pdp Date dictated ____ This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to 1160

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